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# Current Employment Statistics Highlights



**January 2017**

**Release Date:** February 3, 2017

**Prepared by Analysts of the National Estimates Branch  
Current Employment Statistics Survey  
U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics**

202-691-6555

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### Current Employment Statistics Summary, January 2017

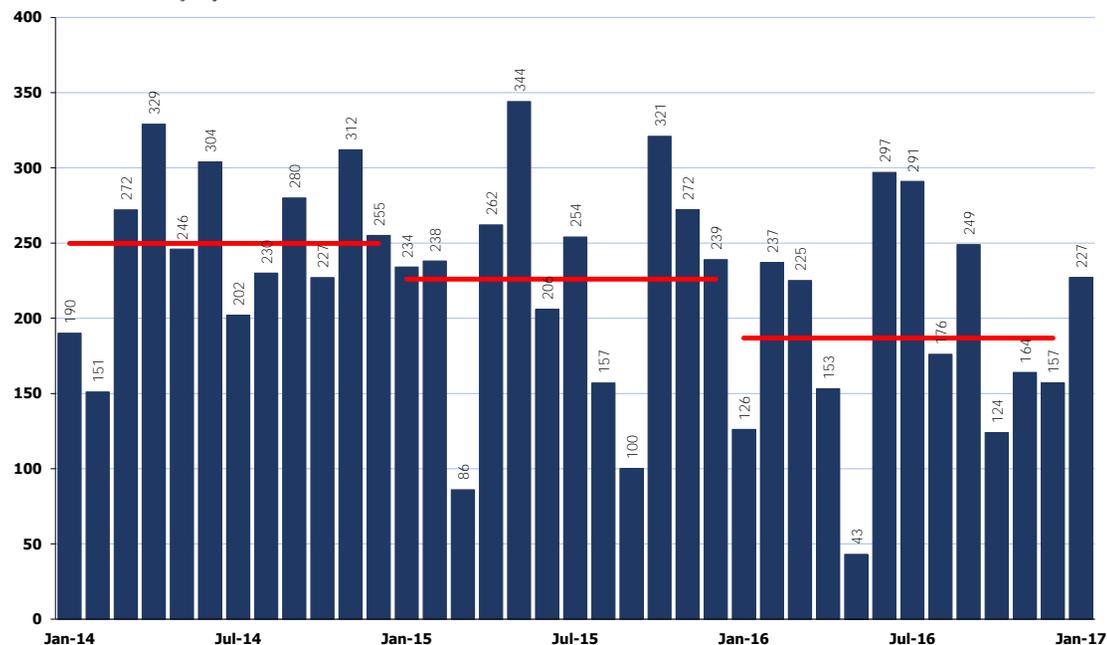
Nonfarm employment increased by 227,000 in January. Retail trade, construction, and financial activities added jobs.

Average hourly earnings increased by +3 cents over the month. Hourly earnings are up 2.5 percent over the year. Average weekly hours were unchanged at 34.4 hours.

The employment change for November was revised from +204,000 to +164,000. The change for December was revised from +156,000 to +157,000. Over the past 3 months, job growth has averaged 183,000 per month.

In accordance with annual practice, establishment survey data have been revised to reflect comprehensive counts of payroll jobs, or benchmarks, derived principally from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, which enumerates jobs covered by unemployment insurance tax records. Nonfarm employment for March 2016 was revised down by (60,000 on a not seasonally adjusted basis). An article analyzing the benchmark revisions can be accessed through the BLS website ([www.bls.gov/web/empsit/cesbmart.pdf](http://www.bls.gov/web/empsit/cesbmart.pdf)).

Employment in total nonfarm  
Over-the-month change, January 2014–January 2017  
Seasonally adjusted, in thousands



Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, February 03, 2017. Most recent 2 months of data are preliminary.

#### +46,000 Retail Trade

Employment in retail trade rose by 46,000 in January. Clothing and clothing accessories stores added 18,000 jobs; however, employment in this industry has shown little

net change over the year. Elsewhere in retail trade, employment rose over the month in electronics and appliance stores (+8,000) and in furniture and home furnishings stores (+6,000).

### Current Employment Statistics Survey Summary, January 2017

#### +36,000 Construction

Construction employment increased by 36,000 over the month, including a gain of 9,000 in residential building. Over the year, construction has added 170,000 jobs, with residential builders (+45,000) and residential specialty trades (+83,000) accounting for 75 percent of the jobs added.

#### +32,000 Financial Activities

Within financial activities, employment rose in real estate (+10,000), credit intermediation (+9,000), and insurance carriers and related activities (+9,000) in January. Together, these three industries accounted for 89 percent of the 190,000 jobs added in financial activities over the past 12 months.

#### +39,000 Professional and Business Services

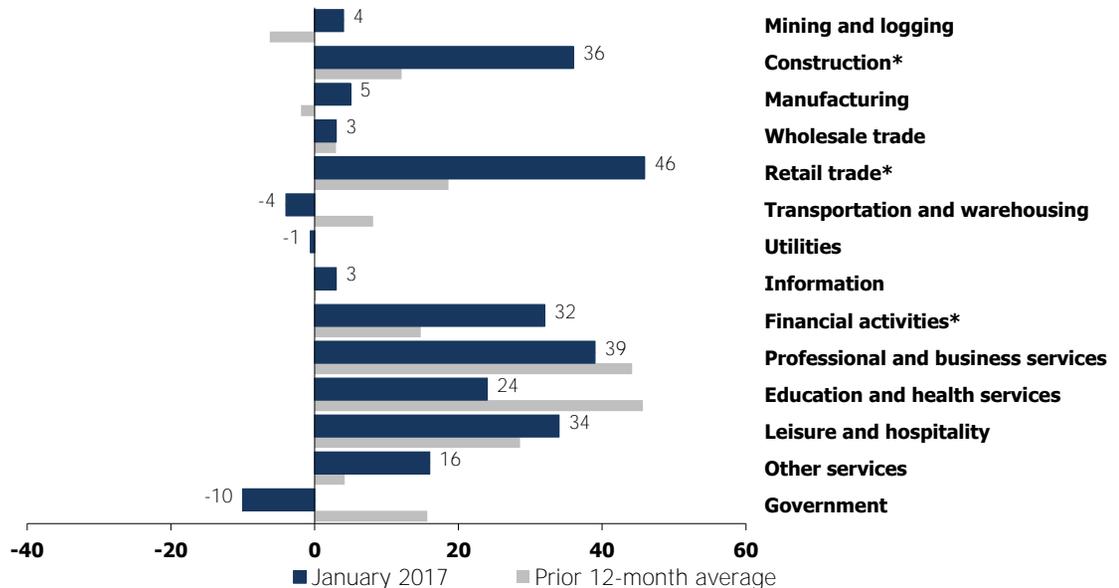
In January, employment continued to trend upward in professional and business services. Within the sector, computer systems design and related services added 13,000 jobs. Over the past 12 months, professional and business services added 574,000 jobs.

#### +34,000 Leisure and Hospitality

Employment continued to trend upward in leisure and hospitality in January. Over the

Employment in total nonfarm  
Over-the-month change, January 2017  
Seasonally adjusted, in thousands

Total nonfarm:  
227\*



Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, February 03, 2017.  
Data are preliminary.  
\* denotes significance

past 12 months, the industry added 347,000 jobs; food services and drinking places accounted for 286,000 of the jobs added.

41,000 in December. Health care has added 374,000 jobs over the past 12 months.

#### +24,000 Education and Health Services

In January, employment changed little in health care (+18,000), following an increase of

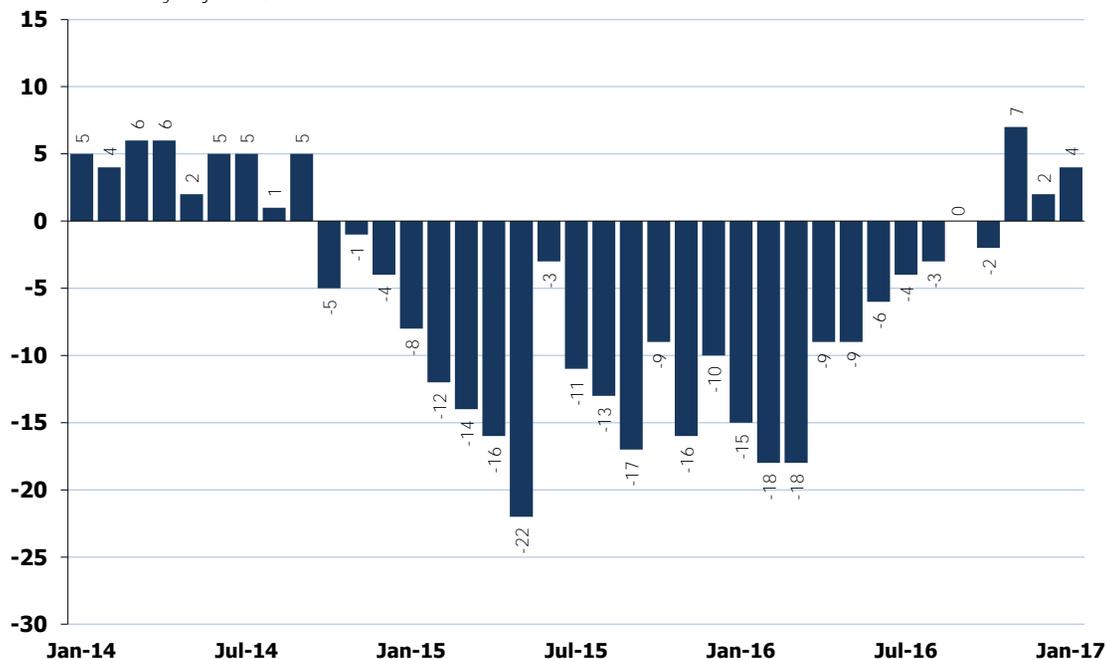
Summary	Mining & Logging	Construction	Manufacturing	Trade: Wholesale Retail	Transp., Warehousing & Utilities	Information	Financial Activities	Professional & Business Services	Private Education & Health Services	Leisure & Hospitality	Other Services	Government
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## Mining and Logging

### Employment in mining and logging

Over-the-month change, January 2014–January 2017

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands



Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, February 03, 2017.  
Most recent 2 months of data are preliminary.

Employment in mining edged up by 5,000 in January. Over the past 3 months, mining has added an average of 4,000 jobs per month. Employment in the industry had declined by 243,000 between September 2014 and October 2016.

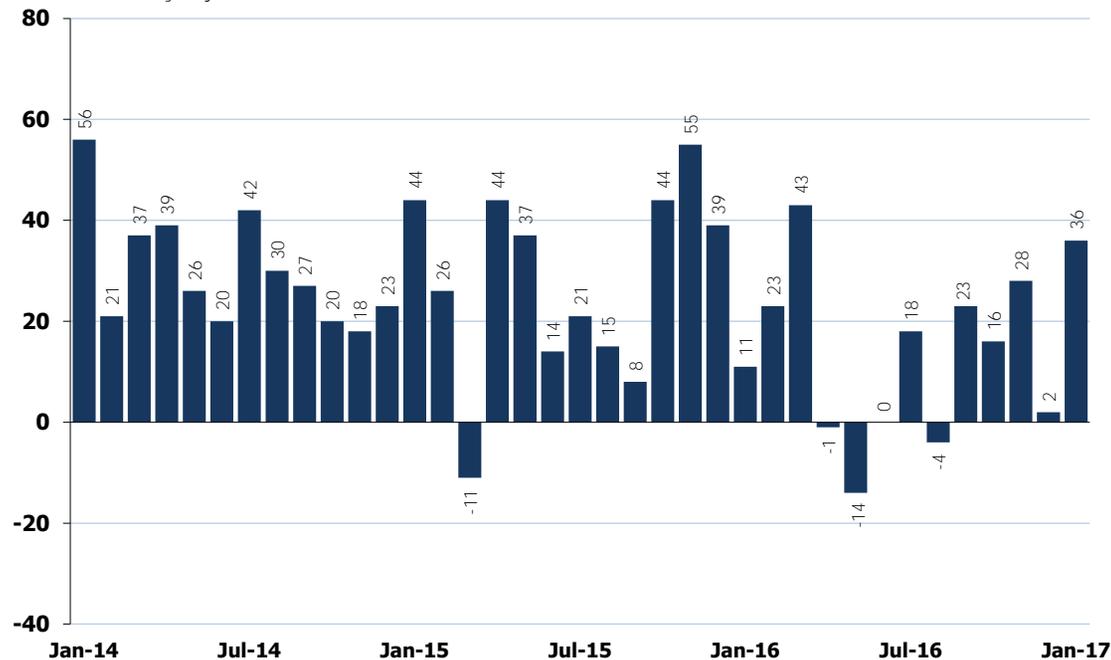
The recent employment improvement coincides with stronger economic indicators for the industry. Domestic [oil-rig](#) counts increased 3.5 percent over the month in January, reaching 659. The price of West Texas Intermediate [oil](#) rose 0.5 percent over the month to \$53.01.

## Construction

### Employment in construction

Over-the-month change, January 2014–January 2017

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands

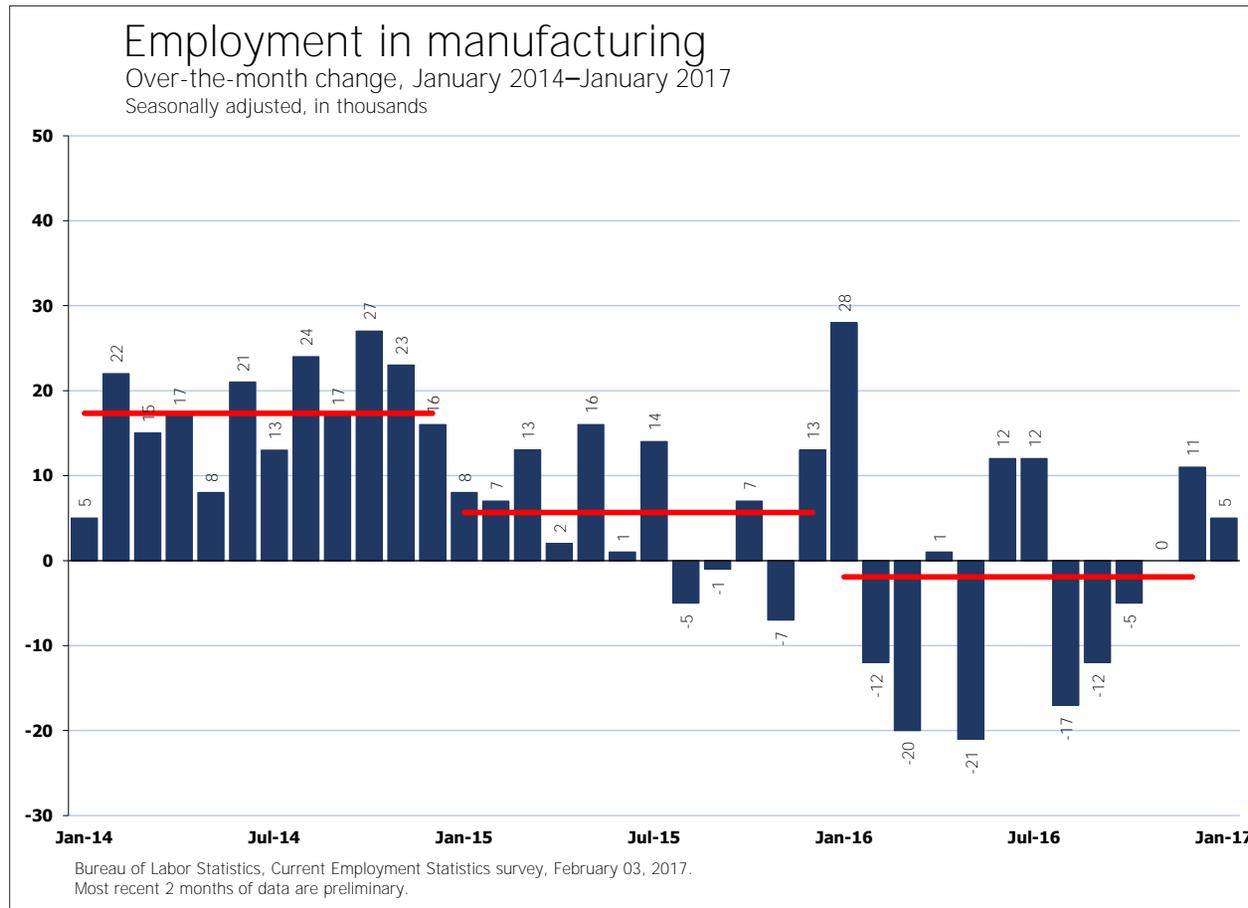


Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, February 03, 2017.  
Most recent 2 months of data are preliminary.

Construction added 36,000 jobs in January. Employment in construction of buildings edged up by 13,000, with the majority in residential buildings (+9,000). Within residential specialty trade contractors, employment continued to trend up (+11,000).

Over the year, construction firms have added 170,000 jobs – largely in residential building (+45,000) and residential specialty trades (+83,000).

## Manufacturing

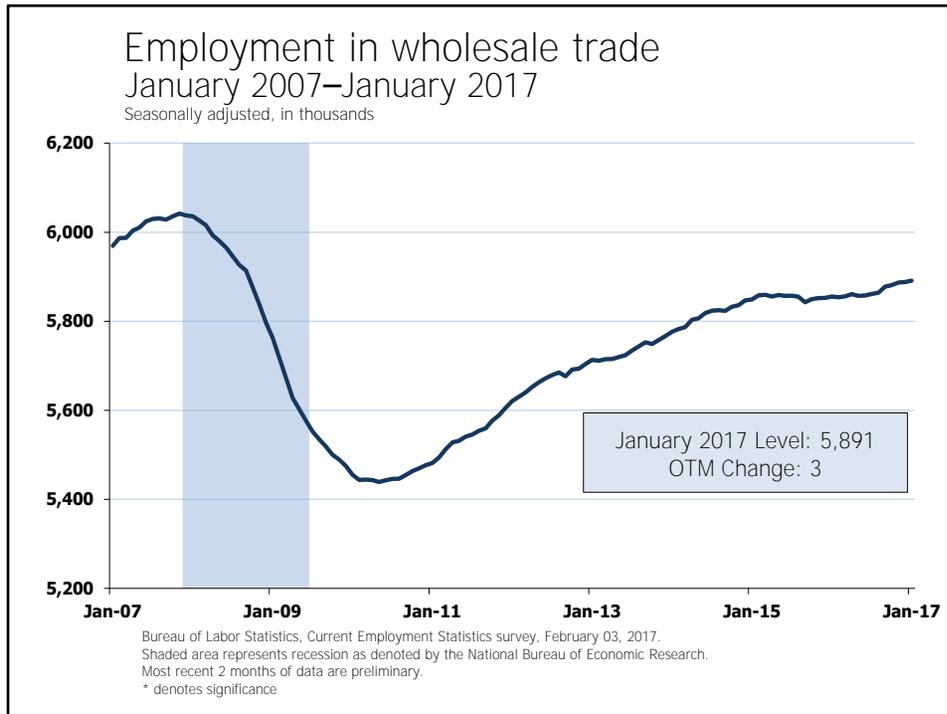


Manufacturing employment changed little in January (+5,000).

The 1-month diffusion index declined by 7.0 points to 48.1 in January. A value below 50 indicates that more manufacturing industries are losing jobs than gaining.

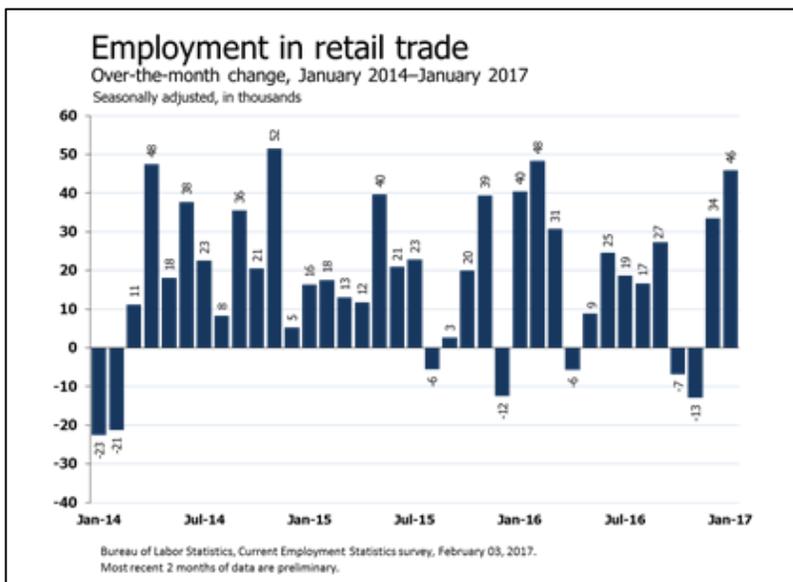
Average weekly hours in manufacturing increased by 0.1 hours to 40.8 hours for all employees and were unchanged at 41.8 hours for production employees.

## Wholesale Trade



Employment in wholesale trade changed little in January (+3,000), matching the average monthly change over the prior 12 months.

## Retail Trade



Retail trade added 46,000 jobs, seasonally adjusted, in January. The industries within retail trade that usually increase hiring for the holidays laid off fewer seasonal workers in January, compared to the prior 5-year average. This smaller layoff contributed to the seasonally adjusted employment gain in January, particularly in furniture and home furnishings stores (+6,000), electronics and appliance stores (+8,000), and in clothing and clothing accessories stores (+18,000).

### Retail Trade<sup>1</sup>

#### Holiday Season Employment Buildup (Not seasonally adjusted, in thousands)

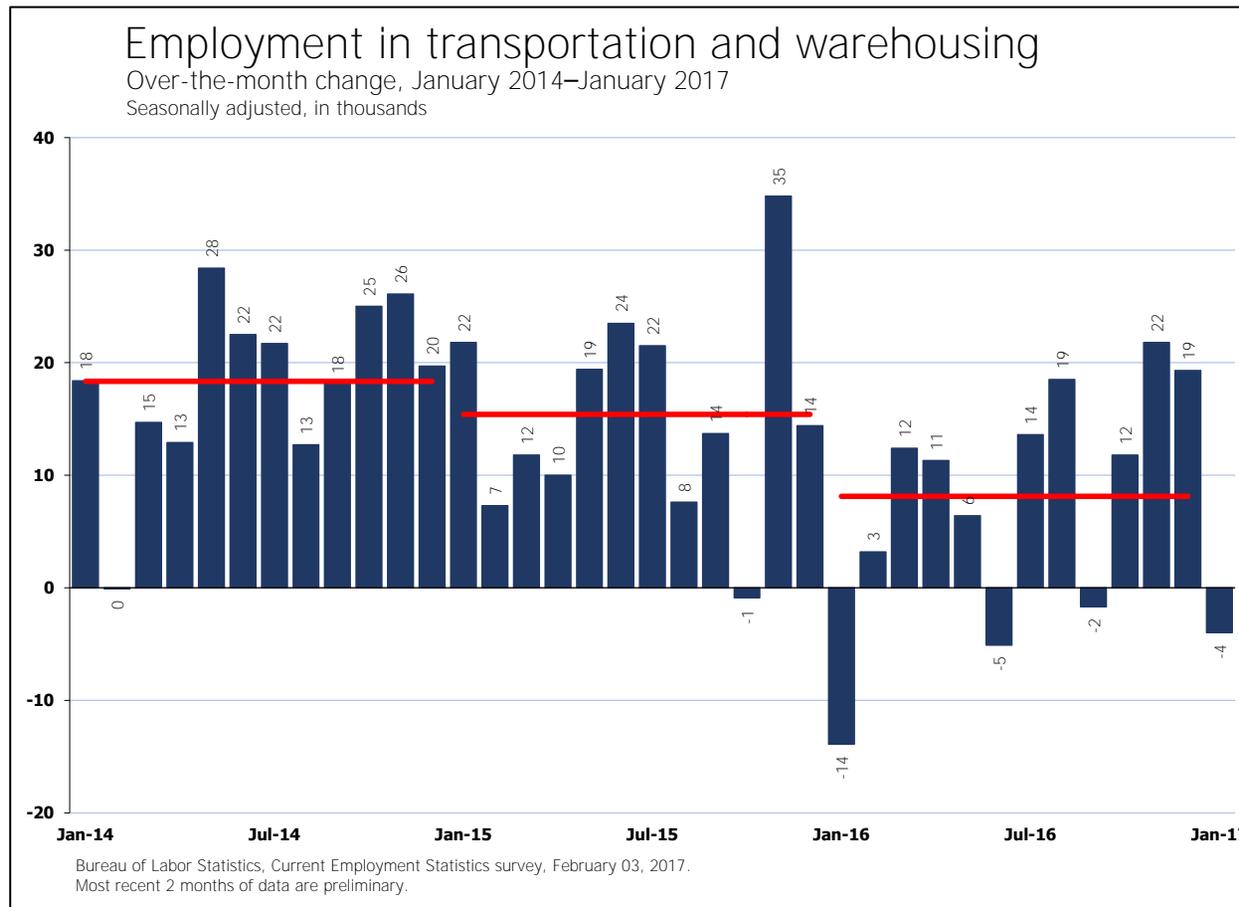
Year	Total Holiday Buildup		Holiday Layoff Through January	
	Level	Percent <sup>2</sup>	Level	Percent <sup>3</sup>
2011	703	6.4	-517	73.6
2012	744	6.8	-560	75.2
2013	813	7.3	-623	76.6
2014	775	6.9	-590	76.1
2015	707	6.2	-558	78.9
<b>Average</b>	748	6.7	-569	76.1
2016	670	5.8	-477	71.2

<sup>1</sup>Includes employment only from furniture and home furnishings stores, electronics and appliance stores, food and beverage stores, health and personal care stores, clothing and clothing accessories stores, sporting goods, hobby, book, and music stores, general merchandise stores, miscellaneous store retailers, and nonstore retailers.

<sup>2</sup>Total October-December holiday buildup as a percent of the September level of employment

<sup>3</sup>January layoff as a percent of total holiday buildup

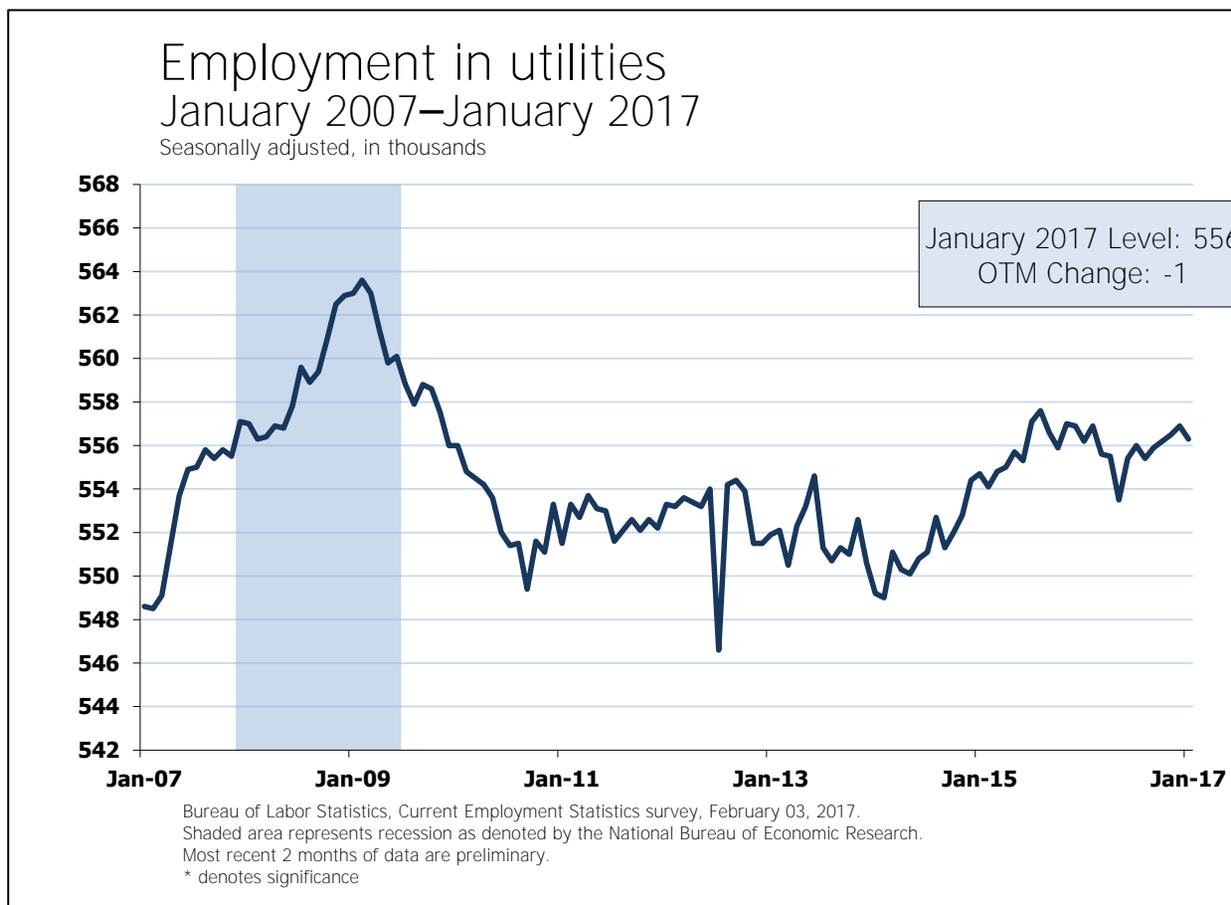
## Transportation and Warehousing



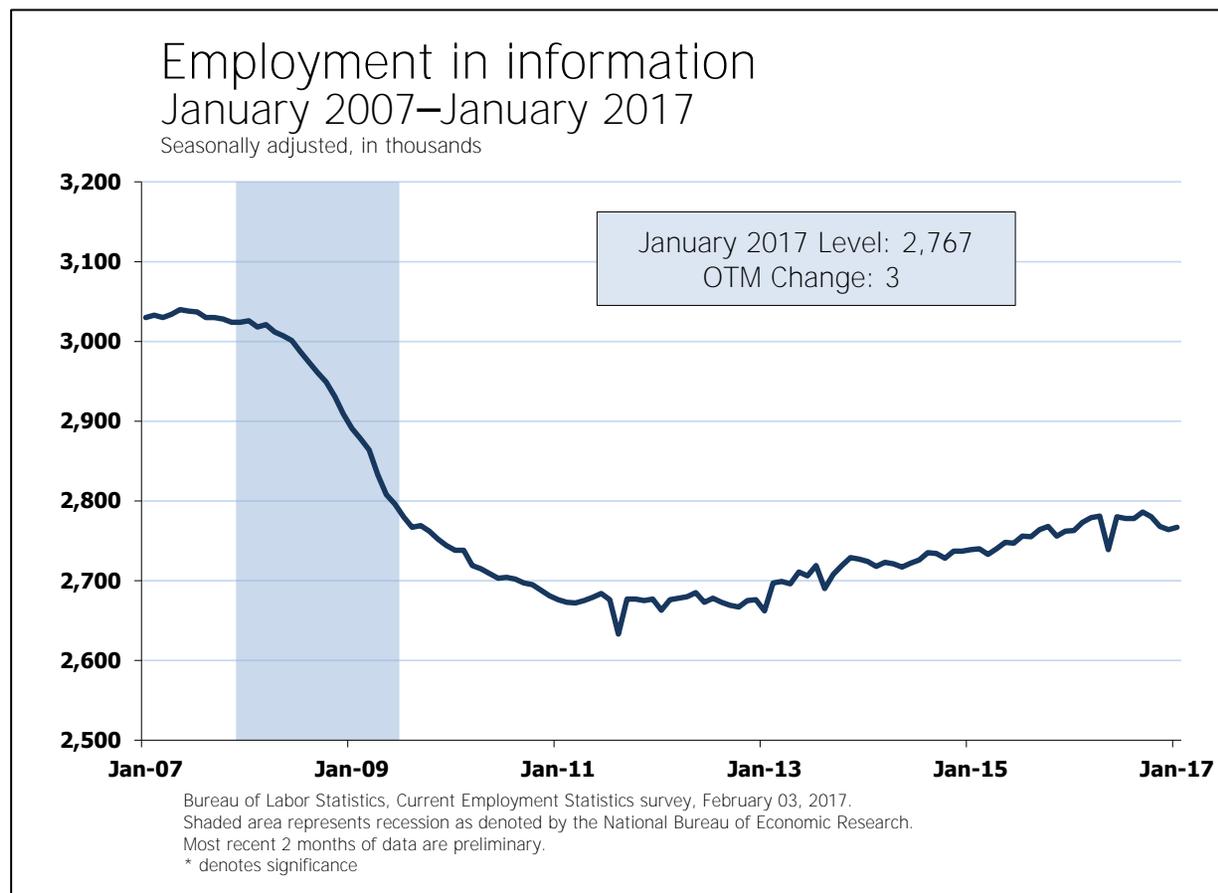
Employment in transportation and warehousing changed little in January (-4,000). Both rail transportation (-1,000) and couriers and messengers (-7,000) lost jobs, while warehousing and storage added 9,000 jobs. Over the year, transportation and warehousing has added 108,000 jobs.

## Utilities

Employment in utilities was essentially unchanged in January.

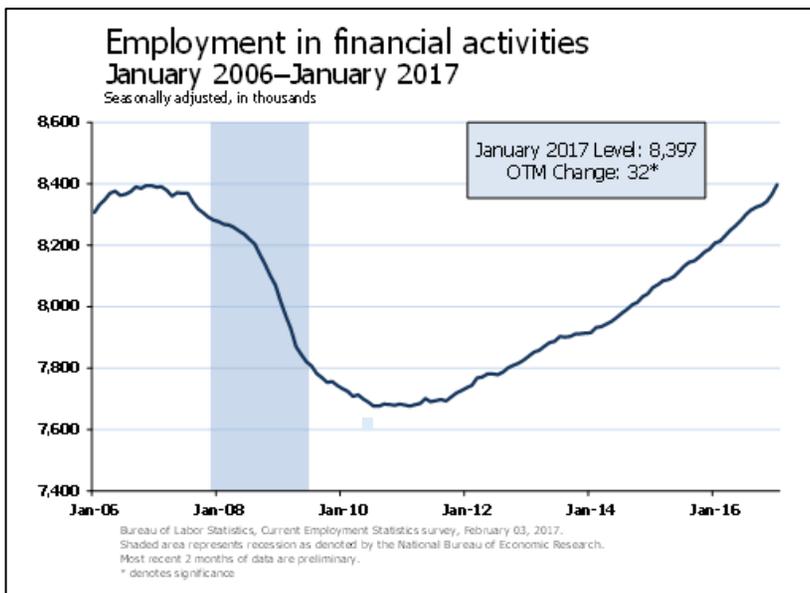


## Information



In January, information employment changed little (+3,000). Telecommunications lost 4,000 jobs, primarily concentrated in wired telecommunications carriers. This loss was offset by small changes elsewhere in the sector.

## Financial Activities

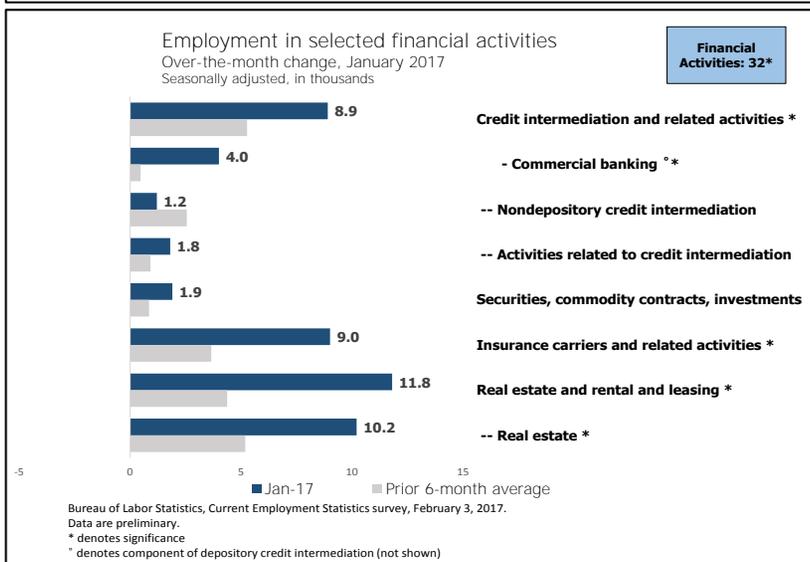


Employment in financial activities continued to expand in January, increasing by 32,000, more than double the prior 12-month average change of 15,000. January's job gain also marks a recovery of the 718,000 jobs lost since the prerecession peak in December 2006.

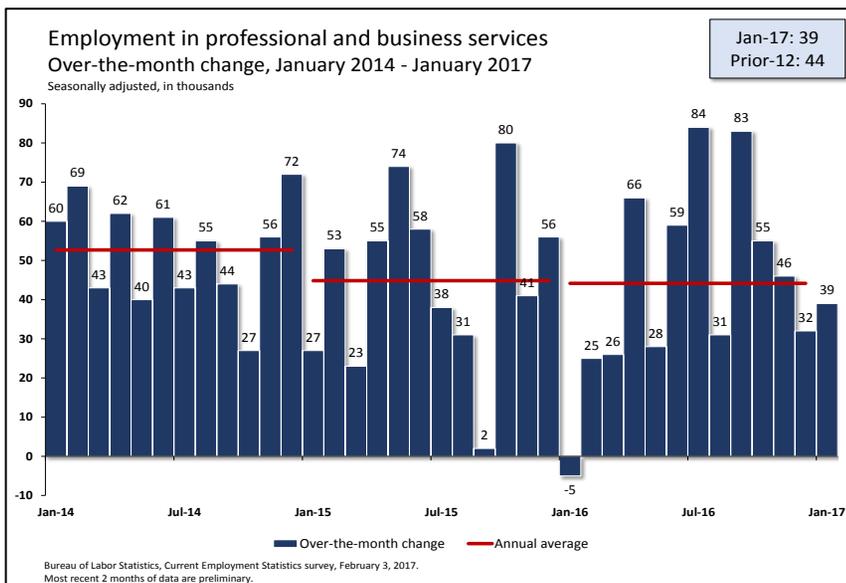
Credit intermediation and related activities added 9,000 jobs in January, and 60,000 jobs over the year.

Insurance carriers and related activities added 9,000 jobs in January, more than double the prior 12-month average of +4,000. Since its most recent peak in July 2008, employment in insurance carriers and related activities recovered and has expanded above that peak by 201,000.

Employment in real estate, rental, and leasing increased by 12,000 in January; real estate drove the gains (+10,000).

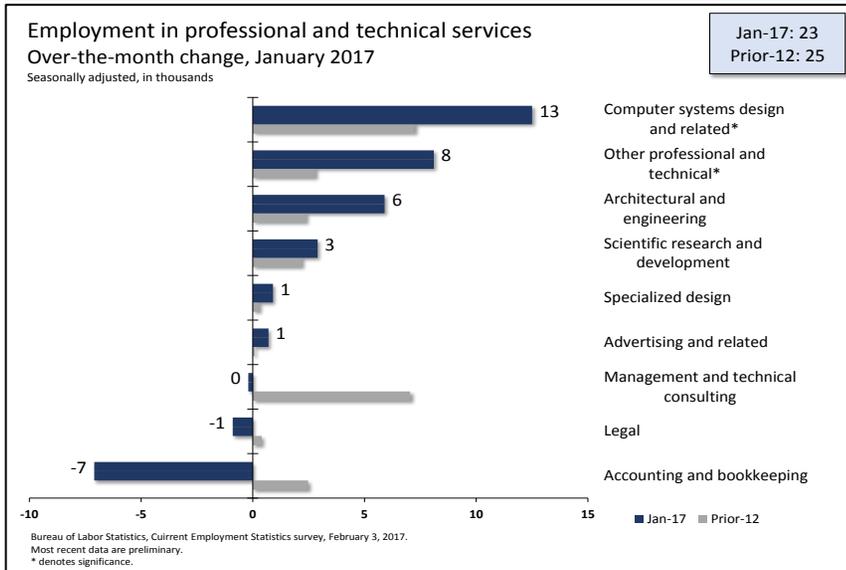


## Professional and business services



In January, professional and business services employment continued to trend up (+39,000). The employment change in professional and technical services (+23,000) remained in-line with the industry's prior 12-month average. Job growth in this industry was led by computer systems design and related services (+13,000) and other professional and technical services (+8,000).

Administrative and waste services employment changed little (+12,000) in January, below the industry's prior 3-, 6-, and 12-month average monthly changes.

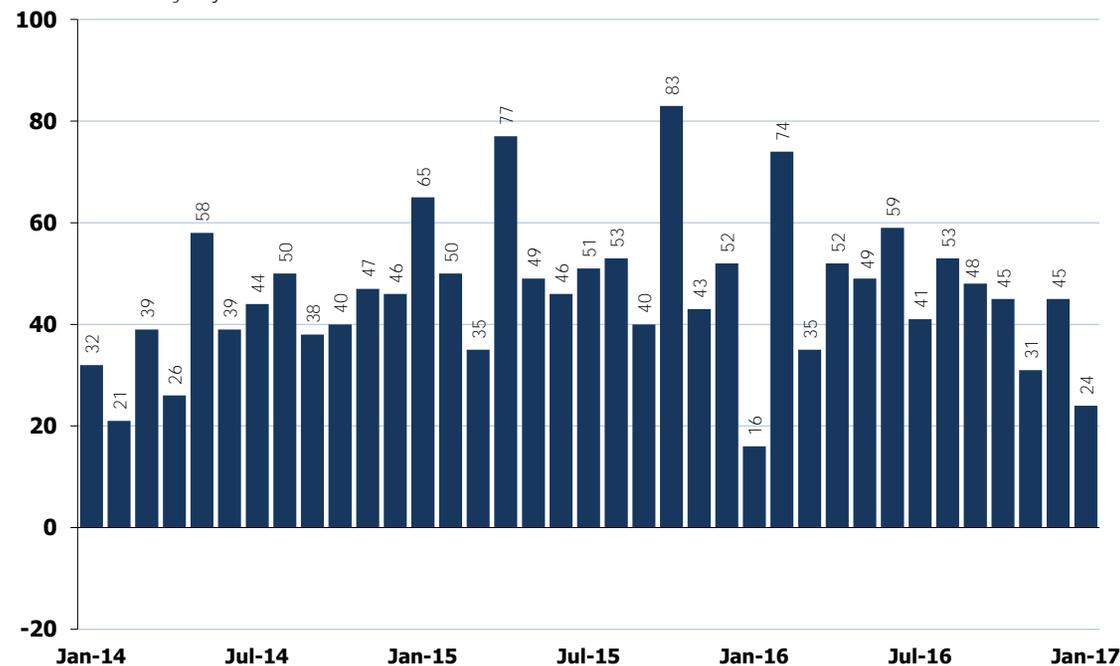


### Private Education and Health Services

## Employment in education and health services

Over-the-month change, January 2014–January 2017

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands

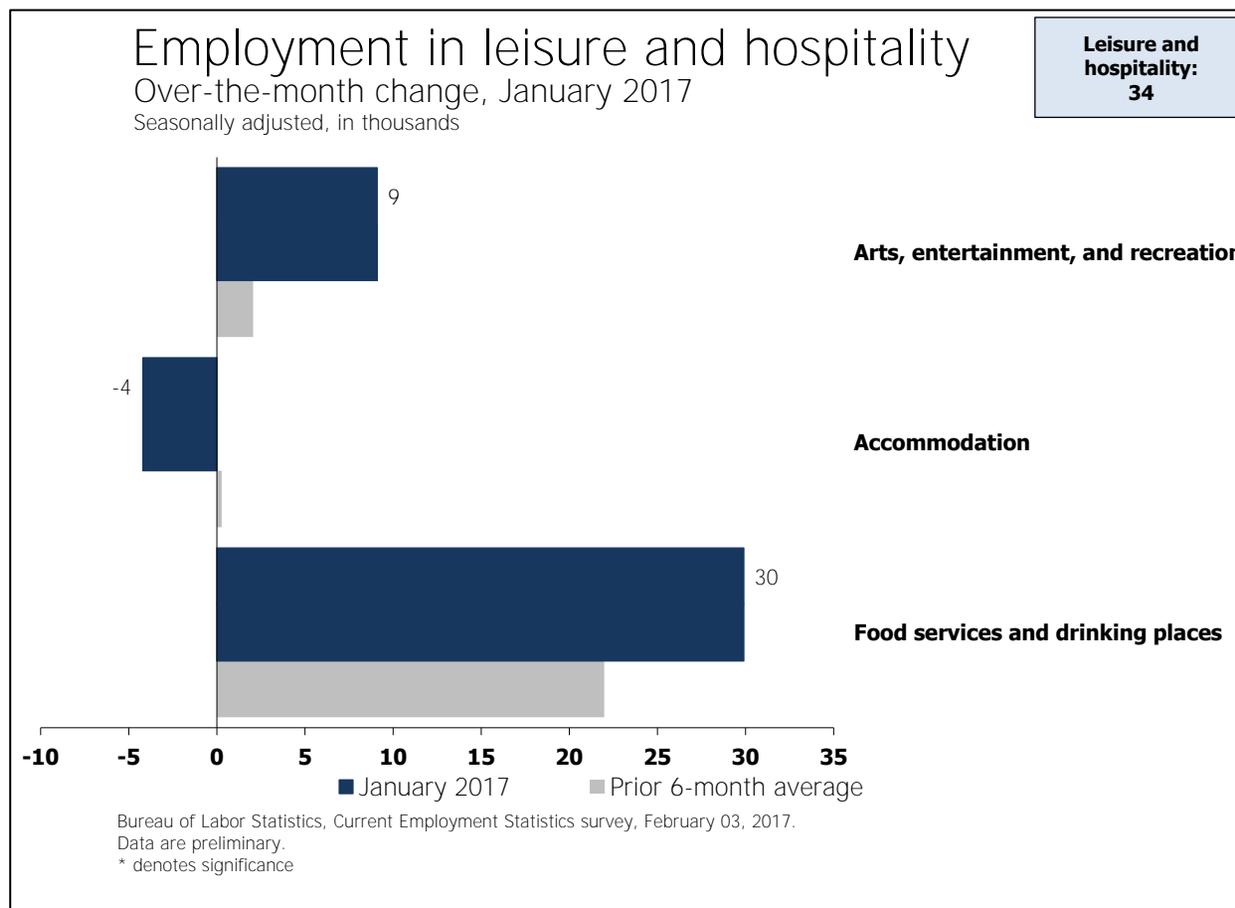


Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, February 03, 2017.  
Most recent 2 months of data are preliminary.

Employment in education and health services changed little in January (+24,000). Over the prior 6 months, education and health services has gained an average of 44,000 jobs per month.

Following a gain of 41,000 in December, employment in health care changed little (+18,000), due to weakness in offices of physicians (+1,000) and in hospitals (+4,000).

## Leisure and Hospitality



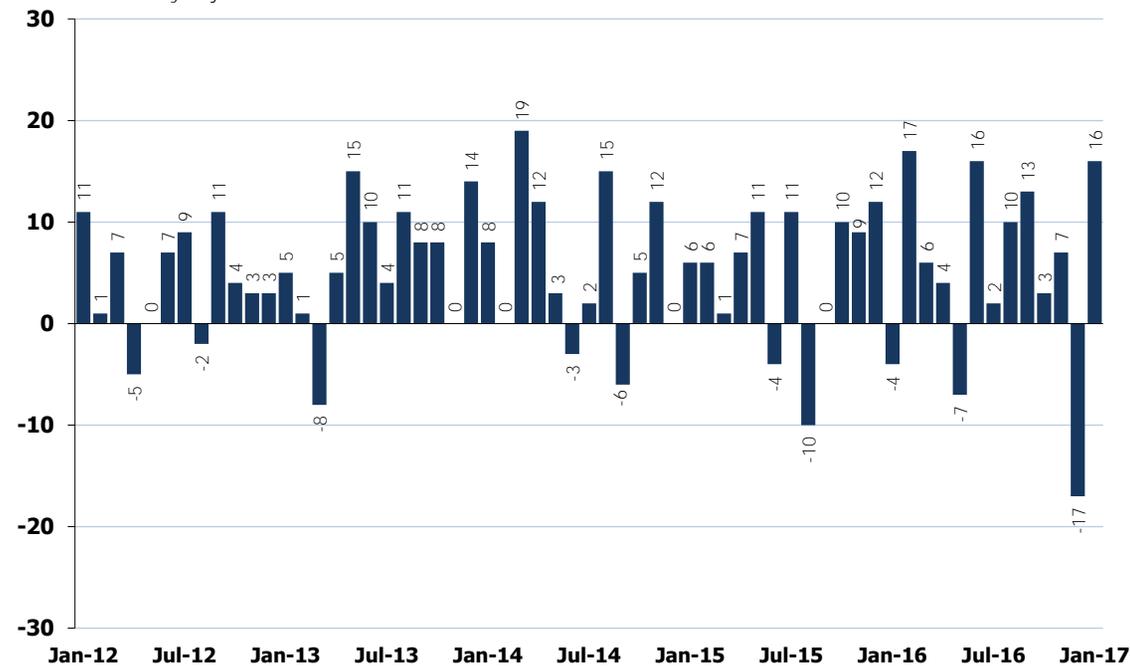
In January, leisure and hospitality employment continued to trend up (+34,000), largely in food services and drinking places (+30,000). The gain within food services was driven primarily by limited-service restaurants.

## Other Services

### Employment in other services

Over-the-month change, January 2012–January 2017

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands



Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, February 03, 2017.  
Most recent 2 months of data are preliminary.

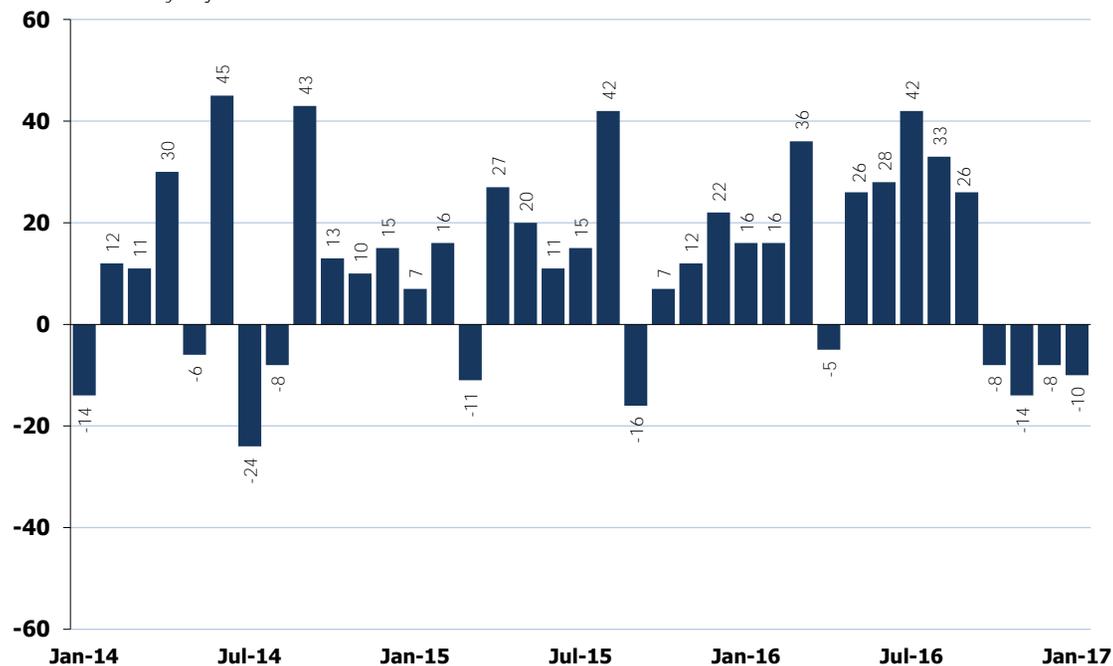
Employment in other services changed little in January (+16,000). This industry has added 70,000 jobs over the year. Personal and laundry services accounted for 62 percent of the job gains over this 12-month period.

## Government

### Employment in government

Over-the-month change, January 2014–January 2017

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands



Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, February 03, 2017.  
Most recent 2 months of data are preliminary.

Government employment continued its recent downward trend in January (-10,000). Over the past 4 months, employment in government has edged down by an average 10,000 per month.



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